

MINUTES
CLAY COUNTY SOLID WASTE ADVISORY COMMITTEE
8:00 A.M. THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 25, 2016
ROOM B, 3RD FLOOR, CLAY COUNTY COURHOUSE

Members Present: Kevin Campbell, Grant Weyland, DiAnn Streifel, Roger Richman, Everett Nelson, Wayne Lepper, Russ McDougall, Chuck Hendrickson, Russ Colson,

Members Absent: Jim Haney, Joe Pederson

Others Present: Kirk Rosenberger, Shannon Thompson, Julie Kennedy, Stephanie Reynolds, Rachael Michaud, Hanna Wallmow, Tim Magnusson, Brian Berg, Steve Moore, Dave Olek, Mary Aldrich, Paul Kalibabky

On motion by Roger Richman, seconded by Russell McDougall, and unanimously carried, the Committee approved the meeting agenda.

On motion by Everett Nelson, seconded by Roger Richman, and unanimously carried, the Committee approved the minutes from January 21, 2016.

Commissioner Kevin Campbell called the meeting to order at 8:00 a.m. and initiated introductions.

Public Relations Marketing Plan-Rachael Michaud

Rachael Michaud, an intern from Concordia College, reported she has been working on a design for Clay County Solid Waste that will be finalized next week. Michaud hopes her public relation efforts will encourage members of the community to become more involved with recycling and promote awareness of other programs that are available through the Solid Waste Department.

Single-Use Plastic Bags-Hanna Wallmow

Hanna Wallmow, an intern from Concordia College, presented a PowerPoint on the lifecycle of a plastic bag entitled, ***Working Toward Sustainable Practices***. Wallmow's presentation outlined where the material to make plastic bags come from, manufacturing/processing, packaging and transporting to stores. Wallmow said the average household uses 500-1000 plastic bags annually with two percent being recycled. Plastic bags that end up in the landfill take approximately 1000 years to break down. Millions of animals and marine mammals die yearly eating bags and/or suffocating on them. Wallmow surveyed various retailers in the area about implementing reusable nonwoven polypropylene bags. The retailers thought everyone would benefit from getting into the habit of using reusable bags.

Solid Waste Activities Update-Kirk Rosenberger

Kirk Rosenberger reported Foth Consulting interviewed and gave a presentation for the regional single-sort Material Resource Facility (MRF) study. Rosenberger said the study, which is two-phased, will look at the feasibility of building a facility in this region or have each county bale their own material and transport to the Twin Cities for processing. The first phase of the study will be complete by April 22. The State will contribute \$50,000 toward the study. Two counties have opted out of the study and Clay County's estimated cost for the study will be \$7500 to \$9000. Stephanie Reynolds has done a lot of work on the \$600,000 grant proposal that was submitted to the Pollution Control Agency (PCA) for funding of the final design.

Rosenberger met with Senator Kent Eken and Representative Ben Lien and gave them a tour of the solid waste facilities in the area. Rosenberger said they both felt there was a need for a new facility. Representative Lien intends to introduce a bill to the legislature this session for bonding of the transfer station and problem materials facility.

Rosenberger reminded Solid Waste Advisory Committee (SWAC) members that when Clay County joined with Prairie Lakes, the agreement was to take 9400 tons of material to Perham for processing on an annual basis. The City of Moorhead has been sorting material and have agreed to send 800 tons of material on a monthly basis until a larger facility is built. Prairie Lakes has had difficulty keeping the new boiler in working order and has asked Clay County to help with the bond payment that is due in May. Prairie Lakes Municipal Solid Waste Authority (PLMSWA) will hold a public meeting on March 23, 2016, to discuss issues related to PLMSWA/PRRF construction contracts and ongoing operations.

Rosenberger mentioned he received a report from Everett Nelson regarding the \$5000 fee in lieu of tax Hawley Township received from the County for having the landfill in their township. The fire fund received \$3000, and \$2000 will go toward the road and bridge fund.

Recycling Update-Shannon Thompson

Shannon Thompson reported electronic pricing will be increasing, but the County is still paying less for electronics recycling than eight years ago. The State will take a two year average of the electronics recycled and that will be the next year quota. Thompson added the problem is there are still credits that account for 25 percent of that; Clay County is part of the 25 percent. Nobody wants to come to Minnesota to collect because of hauling costs.

Thompson said The SCORE report is due at the end of March for recycling funding, and a survey of businesses within the County regarding recycling was taken and will be submitted with the report.

Thompson announced Cleanup Week is coming the first week in May and hopes to add three additional recycling sites. Stephanie Reynolds assisted Ulen with their electronics collection during Cleanup Week in May last year.

Thompson mentioned she would like to involve the Barnesville and Hawley Libraries in Earth Week activities and the 18th Annual Waste Transformation Art Exhibition that Clay County Solid Waste sponsors.

Thompson said solid waste staff participated in additional Waste Works training with two other counties to get a better understanding of the program. The training went well, a lot of questions were asked and it was informative. Thompson said SW purchased additional software to enable staff at the landfill to e-mail tickets from the scale direct to the customer's office.

Household Hazardous Waste Update-Julie Kennedy

Julie Kennedy reported traveling to Waite Park and meeting with other Household Hazardous Waste (HHW) regional directors. Kennedy commented the meeting was informative and all HHW sites have seen a slight increase of product coming in, contributing that to Paint Care.

Kennedy said she submitted three financial reports that were due to the PCA, and added she has updated procedures because of change to cubic yards. She noted the 2015 Clay County Household Hazardous Waste Program report which was included with the agenda and meeting minutes.

Landfill Update-Larry Henry

Rosenberger reported Larry Henry would not be available to give a monthly update, but relayed that things are going well at the landfill.

On motion by Roger Richman, and seconded by Russ McDougall, the meeting adjourned at 9:04 a.m.